

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/667,242	FLOWERS, MARK	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	VIJAY SHANKAR	2673	

**- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address-**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Examiner Amendment on 5-13-2005 and declaration filed 2/6/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 17-42.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

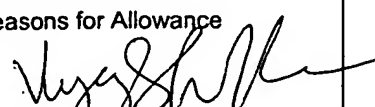
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

  
VIJAY SHANKAR  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 2673

**DETAILED ACTION**

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Patrick Jewik on 5- 13- 2005.

The application has been amended as follows. Please replace the paragraph at column 1, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

--This application is a continuation application of U.S. Reissue Patent Application No. 09/796,685, filed February 28, 2001, now RE 38,286 which is a reissue patent of 08/754,310, filed on November 21, 1996, now U.S. Patent 5,877,458, which is a continuation-in-part [Continuation-in-Part] application of an earlier filed co-pending patent application with the same title filed on February 15, 1996, and given Serial No. 08/601,719 which is now U.S. Patent No. 5,686,705, all of which are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety [includes as an inventor the inventor of the present invention].--

***Terminal Disclaimer***

2. The terminal disclaimer filed on 2-3-2005 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of RE 38,286 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 17-42 are allowed.

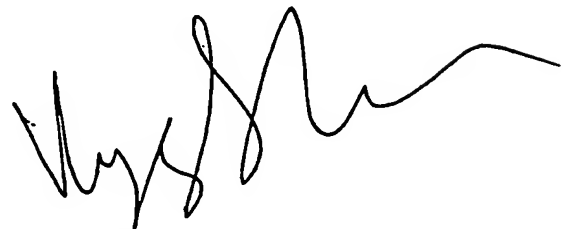
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 17-42 are allowable as pointed out by applicant in the terminal disclaimer filed on 2-3-2005. The prior art fails to teach an electrographic sensor unit comprising: a processor; a signal neutral point; a probe assembly including a first conductor with a proximate end and a distal end, the proximate end of the first conductor coupled to the processor, a second conductor with a proximate end and a distal end, the proximate end of the second conductor coupled to the signal neutral point; and a stylus incorporating at least a portion of the first and second conductors, wherein the stylus is free of active circuit elements and a speaker coupled to the processor, wherein the position of the stylus relative to the surface is determinable by the processor.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VIJAY SHANKAR whose telephone number is (571) 272-7682. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BIPIN SHALWALA can be reached on (571) 272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vijay Shankar', with a stylized, flowing script.

VIJAY SHANKAR  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2673

VS